

## Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 OMB-01 IO-12 NIC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /105 W

----- 050110

R 121020 Z APR 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6601

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 3595

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINS SK CH IN

SUBJECT: SIKKIM CRISIS: PRINCESS AND PRC DENOUNCE INDIA

REF: NEW DELHI 4127

1. A SIKKIMESE PRINCESS, PEMA TSEDEUN YAPSHI PEHUNKHANG, YOUNGER SISTER OF THE CHOGYAL, SAID IN HONG KONG THAT THE DISTURBANCES IN SIKKIM WERE CAUSED BY " LOW- LEVEL INDIAN INTELLIGENCE AGENTS." SHE AVOIDED CHARGING MRS. GANDHI WITH COMPLICITY, CLAIMING THAT DELHI WAS NOT AWARE OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THESE AGENTS FROM THE SUBSIDIARY INTELLIGENCE BUREAU. SHE CLAIMED THAT INDIA HAD FINANCIAL SIKKIMESE OPPOSITION PARTIES AND THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE LIVING BEYOND SIKKIM'S BORDERS HAD POURED IN TO HELP THE REBELS. THE PRINCESS WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN ON A SHOPPING TRIP IN HONG KONG FOR OVER A WEEK ( HONG KONG STANDARD, APRIL 12).

2. IN PEKING' S FIRST PUBLIC COMMENTARY ON THE RECENT DISTURBANCES, AN NCNA ARTICLE ( APRIL 11) CHARGED THAT INDIA " FORCIBLY" TOOK OVER THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SIKKIM AFTER ABETTING THE ANTI- ROYALIST RIOTERS.

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THE ARTICLE TRACED THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS  
FROM THE POLITICAL DEMONSTRATION IN LATE MARCH, THROUGH THE  
GANGTOK MISSION BY AVTAR SINGH TO THE INDIAN DECLARATION THAT  
B. S. DAS WOULD TAKE OVER AS CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR OF SIKKIM.  
NCNA CLAIMED THAT INDIA HAD INTERVENED " POLITICALLY AND MILITARILY."  
THE PROBLEM, IT SAID, STEMMED FROM THE " UNEQUAL TREATY" OF 1950  
UNDER WHICH SIKKIM BECAME INDIA'S PROTECTORATE. BUT IN RECENT  
YEARS, " THE VOICE OF THE SIKKIM PEOPLE" HAS OPPOSED INDIAN  
CONTROL.

3. COMMENT: THESE TWO REPORTS APPEAR TO BE UNRELATED AND ONLY  
COINCIDENTAL IN TIMING. BUT PEKING WILL BE DELIGHTED WITH THE  
PRINCESS' NATIONALISTIC, ANTI- INDIAN TONE. THE CHINESE ARTICLE  
CARRIED NO BY- LINE OF AUTHORITY, BUT WAS RELATIVELY STRONG AND  
DIRECT. IT DOES NOT FORECLOSE FURTHER PROGRESS IN THE SLIGHTLY  
THAWING RELATIONS BETWEEN PEKING AND NEW DELHI, BUT IT WON' T  
HELP.

OSBORN

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Subject:** SIKKIM CRISIS: PRINCESS AND PRC DENOUNCE INDIA  
**TAGS:** PINS, CH, IN, SK  
**To:** DACCA  
ISLAMABAD  
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